

opc Bulletin

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY • April 2010

OPC Awards to Celebrate the Best in Foreign Reporting

EVENT PREVIEW: APRIL 22

by Sonya K. Fry

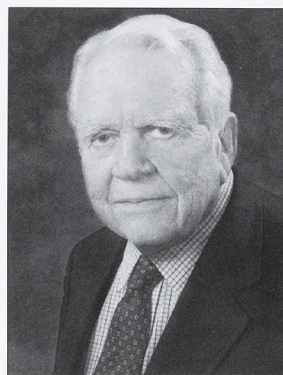
The snow has melted, spring is in the air so it must be OPC awards season. The judging panels, under the guidance of OPC First Vice President Arlene Getz of *Newsweek*, have been working hard to come up with winners in all twenty award categories.

The OPC's 71st Annual Awards Dinner is set for Thursday, April 22 at the Mandarin Oriental at Columbus Circle. The added attraction this year is that the reception beforehand will be in the Lobby Lounge, one floor below the Ballroom. The Lounge has beautiful large windows overlooking Columbus Circle and Central Park and will accommodate a larger crowd. In year's past the reception has been so crowded that guests could barely move so spreading the cocktails over two floors should relieve that congestion. Also we have added a reception after the awards dinner called "Meet the Winners." Microsoft will sponsor the pre-dinner reception and we are actively seeking a post-dinner reception sponsor. OPC member tickets will remain the same price, \$225 per ticket for a member and spouse

or one guest. Non-member tickets are \$500. Tables will also be sold at different levels: \$12,000 for Patrons, \$8,000 for Sponsors and \$5,000 for Friends. Bill Holstein, former President and current President of the OPC Foundation, is the Chair of the Dinner Committee again this year after the success of last year's awards dinner.

President Allan Dodds

Frank will bestow the President's Award on Andy Rooney, writer, author, broadcaster and raconteur for CBS News – 60 Minutes. Rooney has been an OPC member since 1947. He covered the European Theater including the D-Day Invasion for *Stars and Stripes* and was one of eight correspondents who flew with the Eighth Air Force on the first American bombing raid on Germany. Rooney writes a national newspaper column for Tribune Media Services and is a prolific book author with 16 books to his credit including the cur-



Andy Rooney



Kimberly Dozier

rent one "Andy Rooney: 60 Years of Wisdom and Wit," published in 2009 by PublicAffairs. However, Rooney is most famous for his wry, humorous and sometimes controversial essays that are the signature end piece for 60 Minutes.

Presenting the awards is Kimberly Dozier, correspondent for CBS News Washington bureau, concentrating mainly on national security issues. She worked in Iraq from 2003 to 2006, but in May of

(Continued on Page 2)

Saberi to Discuss Book and Iranian Prison

EVENT PREVIEW: APRIL 5

by Sonya K. Fry

Roxana Saberi had been working in Iran for nearly six years, but during the recent election turmoil she was arrested and put in the notorious Evin Prison. Four men forced her from her Tehran apartment and her captors harshly interrogated her and accused her of espionage. They threatened her with life in prison or worse but told her that if she cooperated with them, she would be released. Under pressure she fabricated a confession in

return for her freedom, a choice she quickly came to regret.

It wasn't until she met other prisoners at Evin that she rediscovered her courage and her conscience. In her new book *Between Two Worlds: My Life and Captivity in Iran* [HarperCollins, March 2010] she says "I saw the dark and bright sides of human nature, including my own." Her cellmates included followers of a civil disobedience movement, a humanitarian worker, a student activist and Baha'is – members



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2006 her car was hit by a bomb killing the CBS cameraman and soundman along with a U.S. Army Captain and his Iraqi translator. She was badly wounded by shrapnel and spent several months in therapy and rehabilitation. At the 2007 OPC Awards Dinner Dozier gave a moving tribute and lit the candle in honor of injured journalists in Iraq and Afghanistan. She has covered Iraq under Saddam to the U.S. invasion, the hunt for Osama bin Laden at Tora Bora, the Kosovo refugee exodus, Vladimir Putin's election and the violence in Northern Ireland.

David Rohde of *The New York Times* will light the candle in honor of the 71 (according to the CPJ) journalists killed last year in the line of duty. That number grows every year and so the candlelighting ceremony becomes even more poignant in light of the dangerous profession that journalism has become. Rohde himself, along with an Afghan reporter/translator, were kidnapped by the



David Rohde

Taliban in November 2008 as he was on his way to interview a Taliban commander near Kabul. He was held captive for seven months in the North Waziristan region of Pakistan until he made a stunning escape in June 2009 by taking advantage of sleeping guards and jumping from a second story, dropping down a 20 foot wall with a rope. His book detailing the experience *A Rope and a Prayer* will be published in the fall. Rohde received the OPC's 1995 Hal Boyle Award for his exposure of the Srebrenica massacre and is a two-time Pulitzer prize winner.

This year's OPC Awards Dinner cast is impressive, but as always, the award winners and the video presentations are the centerpiece of the dinner. Winners come from far-flung corners of the globe to accept their awards in person because they know that the OPC awards for excellence in international reporting are important and prestigious. Invitations will be sent in the mail to all members. Reservations are essential.

(Saber Book Night Continued From Page 1)

of the largest religious minority in Iran. When she heard their stories and their deep convictions that landed them in prison, she realized even more the need to recant her false confession and to stand up to her persecutors.

After a sham trial that made headlines around the world, Saberi was sentenced to eight years in prison, but following intense international pressure, including the OPC Freedom of the Press letters, she was released on appeal in May 2009.

Saberi grew up in Fargo, North Dakota and was Miss North Dakota in 1997. She has a master's degree in broadcast journalism from Northwestern University and in international relations

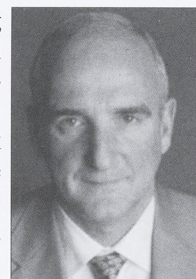
from Cambridge University. She has reported for ABC Radio, BBC, Feature Story News, Fox News, NPR and PRI. This will be the second time that Saberi has appeared on an OPC program. In June of last year she was part of a panel Iran: Post Election Crackdown. It was her only press conference after release from Iran imprisonment and was well attended by the media.

Her new book provides unique insight into Iranian society, the tensions in the Islamic regime and U.S. – Iran relations, shedding light on developments taking place today in tumultuous Iran. Roger Cohen, columnist for *The New York Times* and the *International Herald Tribune*, will be the interlocutor. Cohen, himself, report-

ed from Tehran during the election upheaval with passionate commentary.

The OPC Book Night will be at The Times Center, 242 West 41 Street on April 5 at 6 p.m. Sponsors for this event are Amnesty International, Asian Heritage Network of *The New York Times*, The Medill School of Journalism, HarperCollins Publishers and the OPC.

Reservations are essential through the OPC office 212-626-9220 or email sonya@opcofamerica.org.



Roger Cohen

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Barber Talks Internet Paywalls and the Future of Journalism

EVENT RECAP: FEBRUARY 19

by Aimee Vitrak

More than 220 guests attended this year's OPC Foundation Scholarship Luncheon and echoed the cause that foreign correspondents are needed now more than ever. With the help of an OPC scholarship, twelve aspiring news leaders have been given a chance to carry the torch.

The luncheon was held at the Yale Club in midtown Manhattan on Friday, February 19. At the event, the Foundation awarded \$24,000 in scholarships to 12 graduate and undergraduate students aspiring to become foreign correspondents. The scholarship recipients who emerged from an incredibly competitive field of 200 applications from more than 63 colleges are from Columbia University, CUNY Graduate School of Journalism, New York University, Northwestern University, Ryerson University (Toronto), Stanford University and the University of California-Santa Barbara.

Jenny Gross, a graduate student at Northwestern University and this year's David R. Schweisberg Memorial Scholarship recipient, thanked the OPC for the scholarship and said that winning has given her confidence to pursue her dream of becoming a foreign correspondent.

"I don't like danger and depravation," joked Jeff Roberts, the Reuters Scholarship recipient, who will intern with Reuters in Paris. "My essay for the OPC scholarship was on bagels, specifically Montreal bagels. I'm interested in the geographical and intellectual property for foods."

When bestowing the *Harper's Magazine* Scholarship in memory of I.F. Stone to Owen Kibenge, a graduate student at Columbia University School of Journalism, John R. MacArthur said, "I.F. Stone would have supported paywalls," in reference to the current Internet model where news is "free." Again and again throughout the luncheon, people questioned the ability to get people to pay for news and for paying journalists and media companies who write and distribute the news.

The keynote speaker, Lionel Barber, editor of *Financial Times*, answered the question with no hesitation: "*Financial Times* doesn't have a problem asking readers to pay for news." The *FT* has 100 foreign correspondents on the ground around the globe. "But this is no time to gloat," Barber continued. He attributed the downfall of the American newspaper industry to several factors: it lacked competition; papers did not innovate; they were slow to see the threat of the Internet and didn't adapt.

"Journalists in England, we do like to occasionally tipple, but we innovate," he said, mentioning the tabloid-size design of many British newspapers and shorter stories that do not jump.

To resolve economic problems at the *FT*, he cut 25-percent of the staff in production and put resources into



From left, OPC Foundation President William J. Holstein, OPC member Dan Rather and *FT* editor Lionel Barber.



After the Luncheon, scholars rang the closing bell at Nasdaq. Here, this year's Scholars flank OPC President Allan Dodds Frank.

reporting and content.

"If newspapers move into a loss, they don't invest in technology or talent and this makes a huge difference," he said. "The key is the ability to change, the ability to recognize the threat and understand what your audience wants."

OPC Foundation President Bill Holstein asked Barber how he persuaded his corporate owners to give him an adequate budget to fund his network of correspondents. Barber quipped, "Charm." Then went on to answer the question by saying, "When a proprietor believes in foreign reporting, budget talks are much easier..."

[To Pearsons, the *FT*] is accountable and expected to be profitable." Barber said the *FT* newsroom has a full web-paper integration and that journalists there are expected to create stories in all formats: print, web, video, etc.



Lionel Barber, editor of the *Financial Times* gave the keynote address.

OPC President

Allan Dodds Frank asked Barber to comment on the state of "news aggregators" like Huffingtonpost.com, a site that links to stories with its website fonts and colors, passing it off to readers as its own content yet providing a direct link to that media company's story. Google News does this as well, among many other websites.

Barber replied, "Yes, aggregators lead people to stories, but we believe our content has value. We're not in for 'reach's sake.' We are for people who are prepared to pay for content." The *FT.com* has graduated levels of access for a fee, which is a similar pay model *nytimes.com* plans to institute in 2011.

The economic crisis Barber said, is a boon for J-school graduates: "there hasn't a better time to be a financial journalist since the great crash."

2010 OPC Foundation Scholarship Winners



2010 OPC Scholars from left: Roberts, Brookland, Henderson, Gross, Stein, Law, Kibenge, Finnegan, Stauffer, Ioffe, Matthews and Freeman

Following is a list of the twelve 2010 scholarship recipients, their affiliations, the prize they won, the presenter, and a brief description of their winning applications. The winners emerged from a highly competitive selection process consisting of 200 applicants from 65 different colleges and universities.

Jennifer Brookland

Columbia University
Graduate School of Journalism
ALEXANDER KENDRICK

MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by Daimler, presented by Julia Englehardt of Daimler.

Jennifer expects the investigative skills she learned as a federal law enforcement agent in the Air Force will serve her well in her second career as a journalist. A Georgetown graduate, she wrote about a family in Uganda still haunted by the culture of fear and violence spread by the Lord's Resistance Army decades before. Fluent in French and basic Wolof, she intends to return to Sub-Saharan Africa to "cover untold stories that matter."

Jenny Gross

Northwestern University
DAVID R. SCHWEISBERG
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by the Schweisberg Family, presented by Allan Dodds Frank, OPC President.

The college senior wrote about how Chinese imports have reshaped the clothing and textile industry in South Africa,

closing major factories and opening the market for small clothing businesses, often run in the homes of former factory workers. Jenny had covered the beat as an intern at the *Cape Times* in South Africa. She hopes to return to the continent to write about global economic issues the mainstream media has ignored.

Jeff Roberts

Columbia University
Graduate School of Journalism
REUTERS SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by Reuters; presented by Mark Egan, New York and Northeastern U.S. Bureau Chief.

With a B.A. and law degree from McGill, Jeff readily admits his view of foreign correspondence eschews wars and oppression and focuses instead on world trade, economics and intellectual properties, issues he believes "provide a vital role in promoting truth and understanding between countries and cultures." Fluent in French, he wrote about the economic impact of international disputes over patents for indigenous knowledge and cultural commodities. An OPC Foundation intern, he is headed to the Reuters Paris bureau.

Owen Kibenge

Columbia University
Graduate School of Journalism
HARPER'S MAGAZINE SCHOLARSHIP in memory of I.F. STONE

Endowed by Rick MacArthur and the Pierre F. Simon Charitable Trust; pre-

sented by Rick MacArthur, publisher, Harper's Magazine.

Owen's greatest challenge as a radio broadcaster in Uganda was "translating medical information into the local dialect without watering down the message and criticizing centuries-old cultural practices." Having watched his parents die of AIDS, the Makerere University graduate wrote about how safe birthing practices that could help halt HIV transmission in babies are being ignored. Not even an arrest in the Congo could dampen his intentions to report from remote locations in Africa.

Artis Henderson

Columbia University
Graduate School of Journalism

IRENE CORBALLY KUHN SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed by the Scripps Howard Foundation; presented by Jack Howard-Potter.

Artis wrote about the women's peace movement in Africa, an issue of great personal resonance. After her husband was killed in Iraq, she changed careers and traveled the globe, rediscovering her passion for international affairs. Intent on a career as a foreign correspondent and fluent in French, she will spend next year on a Rotary Scholarship in West Africa. Before then, the UPenn graduate will spend the summer in the Associated Press bureau in Dakar, Senegal on an OPC Foundation internship.

Karina Ioffe

City University of New York
Graduate School of Journalism

H.L. STEVENSON SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by donations from family and friends; presented by Paul Mason, OPC Foundation vice president.

A native of the former Soviet Union, Karina wrote about the economic near-collapse of the one-factory town, Yasnogorsk, Russia, a story she covered as an intern in the AP Moscow bureau last summer. Many industries that thrived in the Soviet era have gone bankrupt, leaving local populations in despair. A graduate of the University of California-Santa Cruz, she is fluent in Russian and Spanish and hopes to return to Moscow to work for the *Moscow Times* or freelance.

Leah Finnegan

Columbia University
Graduate School of Journalism

STAN SWINTON SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed by the Swinton Family; presented by Stan's widow Helen Swinton.

Leah likes to say that her first gig as a foreign correspondent was her move from a liberal arts college in upstate New York to Texas to finish her degree at the University of Texas in Austin. Her next venture will be as an OPC Foundation intern in the Associated Press bureau in Cairo. Drawn to issues in the Middle East, she wrote about the state of flux of the media in Jordan "caught between the old and the new and mired in the ethical and political implications of change."

James Matthews

New York University
Graduate School of Journalism
**EMANUEL R. FREEDMAN
SCHOLARSHIP**

Endowed by family; presented by Alix Freedman, deputy managing editor, The Wall Street Journal.

In few places in Central America, James writes, is the collision of imperialist Spaniards with indigenous Mayan culture more visible than in a village church in San Juan Chamula (Chiapas, Mexico) where ritual chicken killing is more accepted than conventional Catholic ceremonies. Fascinated by Latin America, he will go to Sao Paulo on an OPC Foundation internship. With both a BA and PhD from Oxford University, the U.K. native is fluent in Spanish, Portuguese and French.

Francesca Freeman

Stanford University
Graduate School of Journalism

THEO WILSON SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by donations from family and friends; presented by family friend Barbara Burns.

Frankie wrote about the largely ignored sanitation crisis in Ghana, a country where her grandfather worked as a bank clerk and where her mother was born. On her way to work at the Ghanaian national newspaper, the U.K. native and graduate of the University of Manchester witnessed the health impact on those living near open sewers. The resulting upper respiratory infections are the nation's second leading cause of outpatient deaths.

Christopher Stein

University of California, Santa Barbara

ROY ROWAN SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed by family, friends and admirers; presented by Roy Rowan.

Chris intends to write about the overlooked and largely invisible tales of rural poverty in Africa, like the ones he encountered on a bus trip across Botswana that revealed villages harboring refugees from Angola's now concluded civil war. Even the most remote and seemingly irrelevant places have stories with global implications. In his essay, the college senior described the struggles of Ugogo, a 94-year old Zulu-speaking grandmother in the South African city of Pietermaritzburg.

Caroline Stauffer

Columbia University School of
International and Public Affairs

**FLORA LEWIS MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP**

Endowed by the Pierre F. Simon Charitable Trust; presented by Jacqueline Albert-Simon.

Caroline wrote about Asia's true heart of darkness: rural Myanmar, a story she investigated as an intern in the Associated Press bureau in Thailand last summer. She described the largely undocumented plight of the Karen people and other ethnic minorities who endure atrocities in their homeland and face dangerous and uncertain futures when they flee. An OPC Foundation intern, the Middleburg graduate is fluent in Spanish and will go to the Reuters bureau in Mexico City.

Denise Law

Ryerson University

**S&P Award for Economic and
Business reporting**

Endowed by Standard & Poor's; presented by Catherine Mathis, S&P senior vice president.

Denise's penchant for financial news led her to help launch a successful student business newspaper in Toronto. The same commitment was evident in her essay about the appeal of exchange-traded funds (ETFs) for risk-adverse investors who are content with lower returns in safer asset classes. A college senior and recent *Financial Times* intern, she plans to return to London as a financial, investment or economics reporter as well as explore the growing investment industry in Asia.

MANY THANKS

The OPC Foundation is especially grateful for its Patrons and Friends who supported the 2010 Scholarship Luncheon. Their contributions ensure the continued success of our scholarship program.

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Panel Discussion: The Crisis in Foreign News Reporting

EVENT PREVIEW: APRIL 9

Join OPC leaders for a panel discussion on the crisis in foreign news reporting at the 2010 SPJ Spring Conference at the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism.

OPC Foundation President William J. Holstein will moderate a panel with Marcus Mabry from *The New York Times*, Craig Whitney formerly of *The New York Times* and Dinda Elliott with *Condé Nast Traveler*.

The panel will discuss the changes in international reporting over the past 30 years, particularly as news organizations have cut their network of correspondents abroad. Panelists will talk about how this trend has hurt the quality of sustained foreign news coverage and what that means to Americans' understanding of the world.

The discussion will take place on April 9 from 2:30 to 3:45 p.m. at the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism, 219 West 40 Street. Tickets to attend

are for the entire two-day conference. However, SPJ is offering OPC members the SPJ membership rate so rather than pay \$250, OPC members will pay \$175. This year's SPJ summit is titled, "Surviving the Storm: How to Weather the Tough Times in Journalism," and will include panels on social networking and freelancing, among many other topics on April 9 and 10.

Register for this event at the Society for Professional Journalists conference website: www.spjregion1.org

OPC Members Share Tchotchkes, and Many Journo Memories

EVENT RECAP: MARCH 3

by Doug Merlino

About 100 OPC members and guests piled into the lower Manhattan apartment of board member **Minky Worden** and husband **Gordon Crovitz** on March 3 for the club's first-ever Tchotchke Night. The idea was for members to show-and-tell Tschotchke Night. The idea was for members to show-and-tell

OPC President **Allan Dodds Frank** set the tone for the evening by waving around a gigantic walrus penis bone he picked up during a stint with the *Anchorage Daily News*.

As guests feasted on an array of Chinese dumplings and enjoyed copious drinks, other highlights included **Ron Allen's** Somali camel bell, the typewriter **Bill Holstein** used to get the scoop for UPI on the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, and a ring given to a teenage **Jacqueline Albert-Simon** by the Chief in Charge in Samoa.

Jim Sterba produced a copy of the last secret communication sent out by the U.S. Embassy during the fall of Saigon. **Fred Ferguson** told us of hiding a walkie talkie under a baby carriage to dictate scoops from outside a Russian Mission on Long Island and Dong Kingman regaled the crowd with his improbable story of telling the world that Judy Garland had married again – in Hong Kong.

A surprise guest: actor **Robert Walden**, who played reporter **Joe Rossi** on "The Lou Grant Show," the television show about a newspaper that was a big hit in the 1970s. Walden, who told a funny story about actually trying to work as a reporter, was in effect a 3-D tchotchke. He came to the party with his wife, **Christy Carpenter**, the COO of the Paley Center for Media.

Philip Sherwell impressed the crowd with an array of brocaded and blinged-out leisure suits "liberated" from the closet of Uday Hussein after the 2003 fall of Baghdad.

Travis Fox shared a camouflaged and machine-gun toting Osama bin Laden doll purchased in Gaza that sings Marine Corps marching songs in Arabic-accented English.

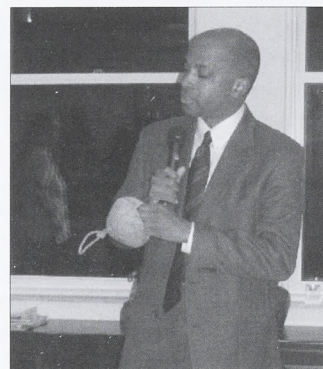
Two members, **Adam Ellick** and **Beth Knobel**, actually brought the same tchotchke – mini burqas from Afghanistan. Ellick was told his was to be used as a bottle cover to hide alcohol from household help. Knobel disagreed, saying that the baby burqas were meant to shroud Barbie dolls. Crowd sentiment swayed toward Knobel in the burqa smack-down.



Guest mingle before the stories began.



Philip Sherwell impressed the crowd with an array of brocaded and blinged-out leisure suits "liberated" from the closet of Uday Hussein after the 2003 fall of Baghdad.



Ron Allen's Somali camel bell.



Party hosts Minky Worden and Gordon Crovitz. Because they met at the FCC in Hong Kong, Crovitz mused that Minky was his "tchotchke."

Photos: Sonya K. Fry



PEOPLE... with Al Kaff

GORDON CURRIE/BILL SHINN

SCHOLARSHIP WINNER: Stephen Nessen,

who won the OPC Foundation's 2009 Roy Rowan Scholarship with an essay on China's Ewenki nomads (their tribal name means "people living in the mountain forests"), now is a Web producer in the newsroom at WNYC, New York Public Radio. Steve also became the first Foundation scholarship winner to intern with Hong Kong's *South China Morning Post*. He speaks Mandarin.

KILLINGS: **Joseph Hernández Ochoa**, 24, a journalism student at the University of Honduras and a former presenter on a TV station, was shot dead, and fellow passenger journalist **Carol Cabrera** was wounded March 1 when assailants fired 36 times at their car in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Cabrera, who suffered a broken arm and ribs, was believed to be the target. A TV and radio broadcaster, she supported the 2009 coup that ousted President Manuel Zelaya, but she had been criticizing the government for canceling her radio show "El ángel de la controversia" (The Angel of Controversy). Her 16-year-old daughter, Kathleen Nicolle Rodríguez Cabrera, who was eight months pregnant, was fatally shot by two men on a motorcycle in December 2009 while driving her mother's car on the same road where her mother was shot. Doctors initially saved the girl's baby boy, but he later died.



Carol Cabrera

Four or five men burst into the home of Yemeni journalist **Mohammed Shu'i al-Rabu'i** February 13 and shot him several times, killing him. Five suspects were arrested. For more than 10 years, al-Rabu'i, 34, had worked for the monthly *Al Qaira*, published by Yemen's main opposition party, the Islamic Reform Grouping, and he wrote several articles about a local criminal gang.

Nepal media owner **Jamin Shah** was

fatally shot February 7 by unknown assailants riding on a motorcycle, and a newspaper chairman and two editors were threatened for their coverage of the murder. The murder victim was chairman of Spacetime Network who introduced cable TV to Nepal. **Kailash Sirohiya**, chairman and managing director of Kantipur Publications, received an e-mail telling him to cease coverage of Shah's murder or face consequences. **Akhilesh Upadhyay**, *Kathmandu Post* editor, and **Sudheer Sharma**, Kantipur editor, received threats over the telephone if they did not stop covering the murder.

The attorney general's office in Mexico's state of Tabasco confirmed on February 28 that **Rodolfo Rincón Taracena**, investigative crime reporter for the daily *Tabasco Hoy*, was murdered after he went missing in 2007. He was killed by members of the Los Zetgas drug cartel a few days after he had written about the gang's drug trafficking. Several gang members have been arrested, and they admitted the kidnapping and named the killer. Rincón had left his office at 7 p.m. on January 20, 2007, saying he would return shortly. But he never did.

VIOLENCE: In Somalia, court security guards attacked and beat **Ahmed Ibrahim Nor**, a Radio Simba correspondent, February 24 while he was recording proceedings in the high court of Bosaso, capital of the semi-autonomous region of Puntland. Court officials had told Nor and other reporters to stop recording, but the attack occurred even after recording equipment was turned off.

KIDNAPPING: **Hussam Dawood al-Eqabi**, a journalist with the radio station al-Ahed in Kirkuk, Iraq, was kidnapped by four armed men while on his way to work February 17 and nothing more has been heard about him. His radio station is controlled by the bloc loyal to radical Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr.

ARRESTS: In Somalia, **Ali Yusuf Adan**, 47, a journalist with private broadcaster Radio Somaliweyn, was arrested by

Al Shabab militia soldiers February 21 and taken to prison. He was arrested after filing two reports on executions carried out by ultra-conservative militants.



British journalist Paul Martin, left, walks with a member of Hamas security forces after being released in Gaza.

British journalist **Paul Martin**, who has produced BBC reports and also worked for *The Times* in London, was arrested in Gaza by Hamas authorities February 14 on what authorities said was suspicion of "violating Palestinian law and security in the Gaza strip." After being held for a month, he was released without any charges being filed. But a Hamas official called him a spy for Israel and forbid him from returning to Gaza or the West Bank. When detained Martin was not reporting in Gaza but had gone there to testify for a Hamas militant on trial in a Hamas military court.

Martin was arrested in the courtroom and accused of helping the militant who was on trial for collaborating with the Israeli army during the army's January 2009 conflict with Hamas militants in Gaza. Martin was the first foreigner arrested by the Hamas Islamic group since it took over Gaza in 2007.

COPENHAGEN: The Danish newspaper *Politiken* apologized February 26 for offending Muslims by reprinting a cartoon of the Prophet Muhammad wearing a bomb-shaped turban. Several Danish newspapers reprinted the cartoon in 2008 after police reported a plot to kill the cartoonist, **Kurt Westergaard**. The cartoon set off anti-Danish protests in the Muslim world. *Politiken* said its apology was part

(Continued on Page 8)

(Continued From Page 7)

of a settlement with a Saudi lawyer who represented eight Muslim groups in the Middle East and Australia.

HOLLYWOOD: One of the Oscars won in March went to a journalist. **Mark Boal**, who was embedded with troops and bomb squads during the Iraqi War, won the Academy Award for best original screenplay for "The Hurt Locker," a war film set in Iraq about an elite U.S. Army bomb disposal squad. In addition to writing screenplays, Boal has contributed articles to *The Village Voice*, *Rolling Stone* and national magazines including *Playboy*.

HONG KONG: Normally awarded to individuals, this year's Kate Webb Award was presented in March to the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism. The Center will use the 5,000 euros (about U.S.\$7,250) prize to train Filipino journalists on how to report safely while investigating the nearly 200 families that dominate Philippine politics. Since the 1986 fall of President Ferdinand Marcos, 134 journalists have been killed in the Philippines while doing their job, including 31 last November in a massacre allegedly orchestrated by members of a provincial ruling family. "The last stories of journalists killed in the Philippines are typically about local graft, local corruption and local criminal activities," said **Malou Mangahas**, executive director of the Center whose 10 staffers investigate crimes against journalists. Established by the Agence France-Presse Foundation, the Award is named for **Kate Webb**, a UPI and AFP correspondent in Asia who died of cancer in 2007 at age 64. **Eric Wishart**, AFP's Asia-Pacific director presented this year's award at a ceremony in Manila on March 24, Webb's birthday.

INGUSHETIA, Russia: The sentence of police officer Ibragim D. Yevloyev, who was convicted of fatally shooting an opposition journalist in 2008, has been reduced from two years in a penal colony to two years of house arrest by the Ingushetia Supreme Court. He started serving the sentence March 4. Friends of the vic-



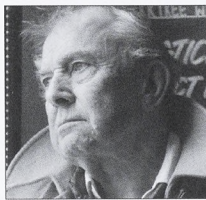
Magomed Yevloyev

tim, journalist **Magomed Yevloyev** (no relation to the officer), were infuriated by the lesser sentence. On his Website, the victim criticized leaders of the Ingushetia Republic, was detained by police and taken an hour later to a hospital with a fatal gunshot wound in his head.

ISTANBUL: **Vedat Kurun**, former editor of the Kurdish daily *Azadiya Welat* (Independent Homeland), went on trial in February charged with 105 counts of aiding the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK). He faces a 525-year sentence if found guilty on all counts. He is charged with "helping and abetting the PKK organization by spreading propaganda" and "glorifying crimes and criminals" in articles published in the newspaper. Kurun was arrested in January 2009 and has been held in prison while awaiting trial. On February 12, his successor as editor, **Ozan Kylynç**, was sentenced to 12 years in prison on similar charges. "This is not the first time that the authorities have used anti-terrorism laws to stifle freedom of the press and freedom of expression in Turkey," David Dadge, director of the International Press Institute, said.

KILLINGWORTH, Connecticut: OPC member **Ed Ricciuti**, 71, has just won his second don (second-degree black belt) in combat *hapikdo*, a martial art. He earned his first-degree black belt a year ago. Ricciuti plans to write a book on martial arts and self defense for seniors.

LONDON: Departing from his prepared script on a documentary about end-of-life decisions, his voice shaking with emotion, **Ray Gosling**, 70, the documentary maker, recounted on the BBC program "Inside Out" what had happened long ago when he stood at the hospital bedside of his partner, who was stricken with AIDS. "The doctor said, 'There's nothing we can do,' and he was in terrible pain. I said to the doctor, 'Leave me just for a bit,' and he went away. I picked up the pillow and smothered him until he was dead." Two days after his February 15 confession on BBC, Gosling, a veteran TV reporter, was arrested on suspicion of murder. Police questioned him for a day and a half and then released him on bail.



Ray Gosling

MEXICO CITY: The man accused of killing New York City journalist **Bradley Roland Will** in 2006 was released from jail February 18 after an appeals tribunal ruled there was no evidence against him. Will, 36, was fatally shot while he videotaped street clashes in Oaxaca. Juan Manuel Martinez Moreno, a baker who was in a crowd demonstrating against the Oaxaca State governor, was arrested 18 months ago and accused of shooting Will at close range. But photos and videos showed armed men, believed to be government-backed agents, firing into the demonstrators from a distance. Forensic evidence indicated that the bullet that killed Will probably was fired from a distance.

NEW YORK: Three of the 13 Polk Awards for reporting last year will be presented on April 8 involved overseas news. The foreign reporting award was won by **David Rohde**, a *New York Times* correspondent, for his five-part series on his ordeal when kidnapped by the Taliban, threatened with beheading and held captive in Afghanistan and Pakistan for nearly seven months until he escaped. CNN correspondent **Dan Rivers** and producers **Kit Swartz**, **Kocha Orlan** and **Theerasak Nitipiched** won the international television reporting award for documenting abuses by Thai military forces against Rohingya refugees, a mainly Muslim ethnic group native to Myanmar. The videography award was given to an Internet video produced anonymously that showed the collapse and death of a young woman, Neda Agha-Soltan, after she was shot during anti-government protests in Iran. The awards are administered by Long Island University.

ABC News announced in February that it will reduce its staff by buyouts or layoffs if necessary. Employees said the cutbacks would affect 300 to 400 staffers, about 25 percent of its work force of about 1,500 people. "The cuts at ABC, a unit of the Walt Disney Company, are among the steepest ever made at a network news division," *The New York Times* wrote. **David Westin**, ABC News president,



David Westin

wrote in a memorandum to staff members, "The time has come to rethink how we do what we are doing." The network will rely more heavily on so-called "digital journalists" in which staff members produce, record and edit much of their material.

The sixth annual New York February Follies went off on schedule February 26 despite being "bushwacked by a snow-storm that blanketed the metropolitan area," **Don Mullen**, an organizer of the annual reunion of former UPI staffers, wrote. Twenty-five people "raised their glasses at O'Casey's pub to memories of lost youth and absent comrades." The former wire service correspondents came to mid-town Manhattan from Texas, Washington, D.C., Rhode Island, New Jersey, Long Island and New York City including OPC member and former *Bulletin* editor **Fred Ferguson** and his companion **Gloria Marti**. Traveling the most miles to reach the pub was **Paula Butturni**. She came from her home in Paris on tour for her just-published book *Keeping the Feast: One Couple's Story of Love, Food, and Healing in Italy*.

Two days later in Connecticut, Butturni spoke about her book before a standing-room-only audience in the Fairfield Public Library, "my first library and the place where I fell in love with reading and writing." She grew up in Fairfield. Her book recounts how she dealt with the deep depression of her husband, *New York Times* correspondent **John Tagliabue**, after he was shot all the way through his abdomen by a sniper during anti-government riots in Romania and then developed hepatitis B.

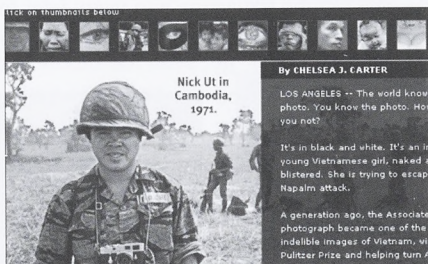
After growing up in Bulgaria, **Gergana Koleva** came to the United States and was a graduate student at New York University. She later became editorial assistant to **Marshall Loeb** and personal finance reporter at Loeb's Market Watch at Dow Jones when he was OPC president (2006 to 2008). Then she joined the OPC. Koleva visited Haiti in 2005 and has just



Gergana Koleva

published an essay on an online journal, *inthe fray.org*, in which "I survey the current and future situation in Haiti through the prism of my experience growing up in socialist Bulgaria."

In her essay, Koleva, now a freelance journalist working in New York City, wrote, "What I discovered during that summer in Haiti and when I went back a few months later — beyond the disheartening realities of life and the people's openhearted acceptance of them — was something I was completely unprepared for. In spite of the vast differences between the geopolitical, ethnic, temporal, and spiritual coordinates of this tiny Caribbean country and those of my only slightly larger European homeland, incredibly — almost illicitly — I felt that I'd come home."



Nick Ut in uniform, part of an online exhibit of his work with the same title:

http://asap.ap.org/data/interactives/_news/nick_ut

SANTA MONICA, California: Two Pulitzer Prize photographers exhibited their work this winter. OPC member **David Hume Kennerly**, a former UPI photographer in Vietnam and later a White House photographer, held an exhibit of his photos in Santa Monica. **Nick Ut**, an AP photographer in Vietnam, exhibited his work in Westminister, California at a show named "Nick Ut: From Hell to Hollywood."

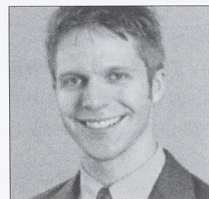
TOKYO: Monzurul Huq, president of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan, wrote in the February issue of the Club magazine, *No. 1 Shimbun*: "There have been a number of reports published recently in Japanese newspapers and magazines about the exodus of foreign media from Japan."

The latest to close a bureau in Japan was *Time* magazine... Our Club is dismayed by such moves and believes that the exodus of the Western media is more a cost-cutting measure rather than a dwindling interest about ... Japan."

WASHINGTON: Three broadcast correspondents have joined the board of the International Women's Media Foundation: **Barbara Cochran**, former president of the Radio and Television News Directors Foundation; **Katty Kay**, Washington correspondent for BBC World News America; and **Cynthia McFadden**, co-anchor of ABC News Nightline.

Michael Golden, vice chairman of The New York Times Company, will become the third chairman of the International Center for Journalists (ICFJ) in November. He will replace **James F. Hoge Jr.**, editor of *Foreign Affairs*. Golden joined the ICFJ board in 2002 and became its vice chairman last year. His previous posts include publisher of the *International Herald Tribune* based in Paris. Founded 25 years ago, ICFJ trains foreign journalists. Under Hoge's leadership, it has nearly doubled in size, reaching tens of thousands of journalists, students and media managers in more than 170 countries.

"Journalists continue to lay down their lives while organizations lay off their employees," **Alan Bjerga** said when he was inaugurated the 103rd president of the National Press Club January 30, Bjerga, 36, a Bloomberg News correspondent, was sworn in by fellow Minnesotan, Senator Amy Klobuchar, a Democrat, before about 300 guests at the event.



Alan Bjerga

Bob Schieffer, chief Washington correspondent of CBS News, has been selected the 38th winner of the National Press Club's highest honor, the Fourth Estate Award. Club President **Alan Bjerga** said the Club's board selected Schieffer for his exemplary career and his contributions to journalism and the Club. "He has always been a mentor and role model for younger

(Continued on Page 10)

(Continued From Page 9)

journalists," Bjerga said. Schieffer, long-time host of "Face the Nation," has been the network's chief Washington correspondent since 1982. He will be toasted and roasted at a dinner October 15.

PEOPLE REMEMBERED

Winston Spencer Churchill, 69, a former foreign correspondent, Conservative member of the British Parliament and a grandson of Britain's World War II leader, died at his London home March 2 after being treated for cancer. After graduating from Oxford, he became a foreign correspondent for *The Times* of London, *The Daily Telegraph* and other papers. He covered conflicts in Yemen, the Congo, Angola and Vietnam, and was attacked by police at the raucous DNC in Chicago in 1968. Churchill, married and a father, was embroiled in scandal over his two-year affair with Soraya Khashoggi, former wife of a Saudi arms dealer, and was criticized for his sale of his grandfather's personal papers to Britain. The papers could have gotten more on the world market, but Churchill believed they "should remain in this country." In his autobiography *Memories and Adventures*, he wrote seeing his grandfather "wreathed in cigar smoke with a whisky and soda already on his table" in the morning, but the drink was very weak.



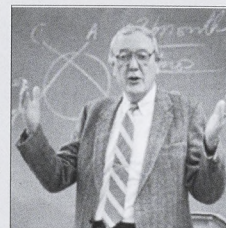
Andrew Jaffe, 71, a former *Newsweek* foreign correspondent and former OPC member, died February 26, after a 10-year battle with cancer of the bone marrow. He lived with his wife, **Eileen Ast**, a communications executive who survives, in New Canaan, Connecticut. Fresh out of Columbia University School of Journalism, Jaffe was hired by AP, and he covered the 1965 Watts riot before joining *Newsweek* as a correspondent in Atlanta. The magazine sent him to Africa in 1969, and he later became its African bureau chief based in Nairobi. He covered the Biafran civil war, end of Emperor Haile Selassie's rule, Idi Amin's rule in Uganda and the end of Portuguese colonialism in Mozambique and Angola. Jaffe became *Newsweek's* Miami bureau chief in 1975, and he left the magazine two years later to become business editor of the *Los Angeles Herald Examiner*. In 1984, Jaffe started an advertising career in New York City. He was editorial director of *Adweek* and a vice president of the magazine before setting up his own consultancy firm in Norwalk, Connecticut in 2003. In his memory the family suggests charitable contributions to the Andrew Jaffe Scholarship Fund at Brandcenter, Virginia Commonwealth University, or to the Whittingham Cancer Center, Norwalk Hospital.



Lawrence D Pinkham, 83, a professor who helped develop journalism programs in China and India, died in a Northampton, Massachusetts hospital February 28 following a heart attack. After working as a reporter for the *Providence Journal*, *The Wall Street Journal* and United Press, Pinkham joined the journalism faculty at Columbia University in 1956. He remained at Columbia for 16 years and then left for the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, where he taught and served as chair of the journalism program until 1981. Pinkham divided his time between Amherst and China, where he taught in Beijing until 1993. From 2001 to 2003, he served as visiting professor and dean of the new Asian College of Journalism in Chennai India.

Graham Hovey, 94, a former correspondent in Europe and Africa, a university professor and winner of an OPC award, died February 20. He lived in a retirement community in Allentown, Pennsylvania. Hovey joined International News Service in Detroit in 1940 and during the war reported from Africa, Italy and France. In 1944, he became a foreign affairs reporter for AP in Washington and two years later joined the *New Republic* as an assistant editor for foreign affairs. In 1947, Hovey entered graduate school and taught journalism at the University of Minnesota and then at the University of Wisconsin. He returned to journalism in 1956 with the *Minneapolis Star and Tribune*, which appointed him its European correspondent based in London. In 1965, he joined *The*

James G. Wieghart, 76, a former editor of the New York *Daily News* and an OPC member, died of pneumonia February 21 in Clare, Michigan. "Jim helped us with publicity for our award dinners for a number of years, and was a lovely man," OPC Executive Director **Sonya Fry** said. Wieghart was editor of the *Daily News* from 1982 to 1984 after working as a Washington correspondent. He began his career at *The Milwaukee Journal* and moved later to *The Milwaukee Sentinel*, which appointed him its Washington bureau chief in 1966. Still in Washington, he joined the *Daily News* in 1969 and covered the Nixon, Ford and Carter administrations; the Defense Department during the waning years of the Vietnam War; and the White House during the Watergate scandal.



After leaving journalism, Wieghart worked for Senator Edward M. Kennedy and later was public information officer for the investigation into the Iran-contra affair. Wieghart was Chairman of the journalism department at Central Michigan from 1989 to 1993. He joined the Dilenschneider Group, a New York based public relations firm where he was a consultant until 2009.

New York Times, where he wrote editorials on Europe, Africa and the Americas. He retired from *The Times* in 1980 and then taught at the University of Michigan. His OPC award was for best press interpretation of foreign affairs.

Adrianne M. Marcus Wilson, 74, a poet and author and an OPC member since 1983, died last September 9 after a long illness. She lived in Rafael, California. Adrianne worked as a food columnist for the *San Francisco Chronicle* and other newspapers and magazines. She wrote several non-fiction books including *The Chocolate Bible* and *The Photojournalist: Mark & Leibovitz*. More than 400 of her poems were published in *Atlantic Monthly*, *The Nation* and poetry magazines. Survivors include her husband, author **Ian Wilson**, and three daughters.

A Tale of Two Hungarian Reporters at Different Times in History

EVENT RECAP: FEBRUARY 17

by Aimee Vitrak

Journalist and author Kati Marton spoke to OPC members and their guests to a packed room at Club Quarters in midtown Manhattan on Wednesday, February 17. She called her latest book, *Enemies of the People: My Family's Journey to America* [Simon & Schuster], a "reporters tale," which recounts her parents as the last independent journalists behind the Iron Curtain during the Cold War.

"I have been circling this story for my entire writing life," Marton said. "This is my seventh book, the first done in first person, but it is not a memoir. It's really a story of my parents who died four and five years ago."

She said the book is not something she would have written while her parents -- Endre and Ilona -- were alive, as they were always "forward looking."

"That was the spirit that kept them going," she said. "They loved America beyond reason."

Marton said that her parents were also incredibly private people who would have "hated this book. They would not have enjoyed me probing, at times I felt like one of their 'watchers.'"

The Marton family was watched, every step recorded, for more than twenty years because they had signed on with America and its ideals and were as a consequence branded "enemies of the people."

Marton described the process of delving into the files of the Hungarian secret police (AVO) and piecing together the family's history. Many people tried to warn her, suggesting that she didn't know what she might find, but she pursued the story because she said it was better to know than not know and that she was just being faithful to her family role of "truth teller."

To gain access to the archives, Marton had to file a lot of forms and wait to be summoned. When the call came, the clerk advised, "bring an empty suitcase." After photocopying more than one suitcase of papers on the Marton family, the clerk, quite pleased, remarked, "yes, it's one of our biggest files."

When asked about having such broad access to the archive, Marton responded that "the Hungarian government wants to send the message that 'we're a different country now; it's all yours.'"

One surprise in her research was that she thought the family's legacy of surveillance would end once they emigrated to the United States in 1956. But the Hungarians had not yet given up on her parents. They dispatched a team to recruit Endre from their new home in Bethesda, Maryland.

"It was a combination of [Hungarian government's] paranoia and ignorance," Marton said. The watchers waiting, thinking that everyone has something to hide and eventually that something to hide could be discovered and used against them as blackmail. The surveillance by the Hungarians lasted another 10 years while they were in the United States, and Marton suspects that her parents were likely aware that they weren't one hundred percent free, however, their family never really talked about it. The biggest surprise came to Marton after she filed a freedom of information act with the U.S. government and discovered that the U.S. had also followed the Martons.

"I'm glad my parents didn't know about the FBI and Hoover," she said. "They were such great patriots and would have been offended to know the FBI was on their tail."

Marton said that from her recollections of the Telex machine in the living room and her father as a reporter for the Associated Press -- and who also filed stories under his wife's name for United Press -- it never occurred to her to be anything other than a journalist. She continues to write and is on the Board of CPJ to continue the fight for press freedom globally.



Kati Marton spoke about her latest book, *Enemies of the People*.



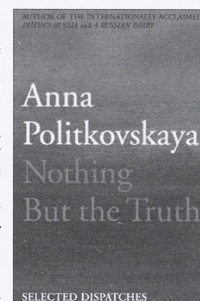
Kati Marton speaks before the event with Seymour and Audrey Topping.

Photos: Aimee Vitrak

New Books: (Continued From Page 12)

other countries and tributes published after her death. "She was astonished at the warmth of the Australian people but wondered why she saw no aborigines in Sydney," DeLong wrote in the review published in *The Mudgee Guardian*, an Australian newspaper.

In an e-mail to this column, DeLong wrote, "She [Politkovskaya] was one brave lady, or a very foolish one, depending on your point of view. Nine attempts on her life and they finally got her." For 32 years, DeLong was a radio broadcaster in Australia, Des Moines, Philadelphia and Washington. She and her husband, former UPI correspondent **Ed DeLong**, live in Australia where they run a bed-and-breakfast. She formerly was married to **Ken Braddick**, also a former UPI correspondent.

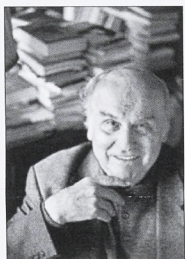


— by Al Kaff

New Books

GLOBAL

"HE WAS AMONG THE WORLD'S best-known foreign correspondents, whose books on the coups and revolutions of developing countries were so beautifully crafted that he was considered for the Nobel prize in literature." That was what the *Financial Times* wrote in reviewing a new biography of Poland's **Ryszard Kapuscinski**, who reported from Africa, Asia and Latin America for PAP, the Polish news agency. Titled *Kapuscinski Non-Fiction*, the biography was written by his friend and mentor **Artur Domoslawski** and published in Poland. The author said that Kapuscinski blurred the line between factual reporting and literary creation including: Kapuscinski's report that he met with Che Guevara and Patrice Lumumba but he never did meet them. His yarns, such as being threatened with execution by Belgian troops in Burundi, were probably exaggerated and he made up a tale of his father escaping from Soviet captivity in 1939. His widow,

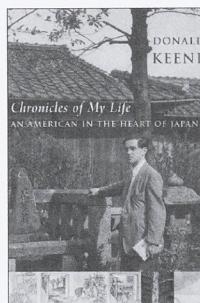


Kapuscinski

Alicja, tried but failed to get the courts to bar the book's publication when she learned that it would not be as favorable as she had hoped. Kapuscinski died three years ago at age 75. His books, translated into 28 languages, include *The Emperor*, *Shah of Shahs*, *Imperium*, *Shadow of the Sun* and his memoir *Travels With Herodotus*.

ASIA

DONALD KEENE WROTE A 1996 memoir *On Familiar Terms*. Now he has written another one, *Chronicles of My Life: An American in the Heart of Japan* [New York: Columbia University Press], after publishing a series of columns about his life for the Tokyo newspaper *Yomiuri Shimbun*. At a beach one day when he was a 16-year-old freshman at Columbia, Keene asked a Chinese friend to teach him some Chinese characters. The friend drew a horizontal line in the sand, the Chinese character for "one" and went on to teach him a few more simple ideograms. Keene was hooked. He studied Japanese at a U.S. Navy school during World War II, served as an interpreter and translator during the war, was a professor of Japanese literature at Columbia for 50 years, wrote 25 books in English and 30 in Japanese and has written for newspapers. His friends



included Bertrand Russell with whom he shared "a beer together after every lecture," Keene writes.

EUROPE

"POLITKOVSKAYA'S MURDER shocked, but did not surprise, those who had followed her reporting of corruption and murder in Russia." So wrote **Susan DeLong** in a review of *Nothing But the Truth* [London: Harvill Secker], a collection of newspaper columns written by **Anna Politkovskaya**. DeLong wrote of the Russian journalist, "She often received death treats as a result of her work, including being threatened with rape... She had nine reported threats to kill her... She rubbed reader's faces in the horror of the Chechnyan war and demanded that apathetic people care and challenge their government to do better; to look after the sick and elderly and rebuild the homes of those whose dwellings were bombed."

Politkovskaya was fatally shot in the hallway of her apartment block in 2006, and four men charged with her murder walked free in 2009. "Most journalists both in Russia and the West doubt that the Putin government want to catch her killer," DeLong wrote. In her columns in the opposition newspaper *Novaya Gazeta*, Politkovskaya recounts atrocities committed by the Russian army and Moscow's intelligence authorities on Chechnyan civilians during the Chechnyan War. The book also contains articles she wrote from

(Continued on Page 11)

Coming Up...

Saberi Book Night
April 5 at 6 p.m.
The Times Center

Reporting Panel
April 9 at 2:30 p.m.
CUNY Graduate School

OPC Awards Gala
April 22 at 6 p.m.
Mandarin Oriental

Overseas Press Club of America
40 West 45 Street
New York, NY 10036 USA